

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

February 26, 2018

The Honorable Mark T. Esper  
Secretary of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 22202

General Mark A. Milley, USA  
Chief of Staff of the Army  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 22202

Dear Secretary Esper and General Milley,

We write in regard to the forthcoming assignment of the U.S. Army's new Security Force Assistance Brigades (SFAB). As the Congressional delegation representing Fort Drum and the surrounding community, we have heard that the Army is nearing a decision on the placement of its newest SFABs and we would like to draw your attention to the benefits of locating one of them at Fort Drum.

In placing the third and fourth SFABs, we believe the Army will benefit from stationing them at Divisional units best capable of providing the necessary level of support and training and that an experienced unit like the 10th Mountain Division is well suited for these requirements.

Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division have the existing capacity, experience and infrastructure to support a new SFAB. Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division have supported a variety of Security Force Assistance and Advise and Assist missions during the past several years—sending Brigade Combat Teams around the world to accomplish complex missions. Further, the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum has provided a number of personnel to fill the ranks of the 1st SFAB from Fort Benning and deployed thousands more soldiers to Fort Polk to support training and certification requirements for the 1st SFAB. Finally, with the loss of a BCT several years ago, Fort Drum has the existing infrastructure available to absorb a new SFAB - thus making it a very cost and operationally effective alternative for the Army in its basing selection process.

As you consider where to place the final SFABs, we hope you will seriously consider Fort Drum. We are grateful for the strong partnership we have with the Army. The servicemembers, military families, and civilians stationed at Fort Drum perform incredible work in support of our national defense. Fort Drum is a critical part of the local community, which has long-welcomed new servicemembers and missions. We look forward to your response and continued collaboration in enabling Fort Drum's role in serving the American people.

Sincerely,



Kirsten Gillibrand  
U.S. Senator



Charles E. Schumer  
U.S. Senator

Elise M. Stefanik  
U.S. Representative